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On 5/29/99

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Susan J. Bell

**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No.: 16249-000810

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Saunders et al.

Application No.: 08/956,349

Filed: October 23, 1997

For: METHOD FOR ANALYZING  
DNA FROM A RATE CELL IN A  
CELL POPULATION

Examiner: E. A. Campbell, Ph.D.

Art Unit: 1634

**AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Examiner's Action mailed December 8, 1998, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-referenced application in view of the following remarks. A petition to extend the time for response for three months from March 8, 1999, until June 8, 1999, accompanies this Amendment. A Notice of Appeal also accompanies this Amendment.

**REMARKS**

**I. Status of Claims**

Claims 1-20 are pending. Applicants respectfully urge that the finality of the Action is improper. The Action recites wholly new grounds for rejection, not necessitated by any amendment by Applicant. Applicants respectfully submit the finality should be removed.

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